MARVEL NOW!

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AVENGERS

DUSTIN WEAVER J-PO

JOIN THE REVOLUTION

006

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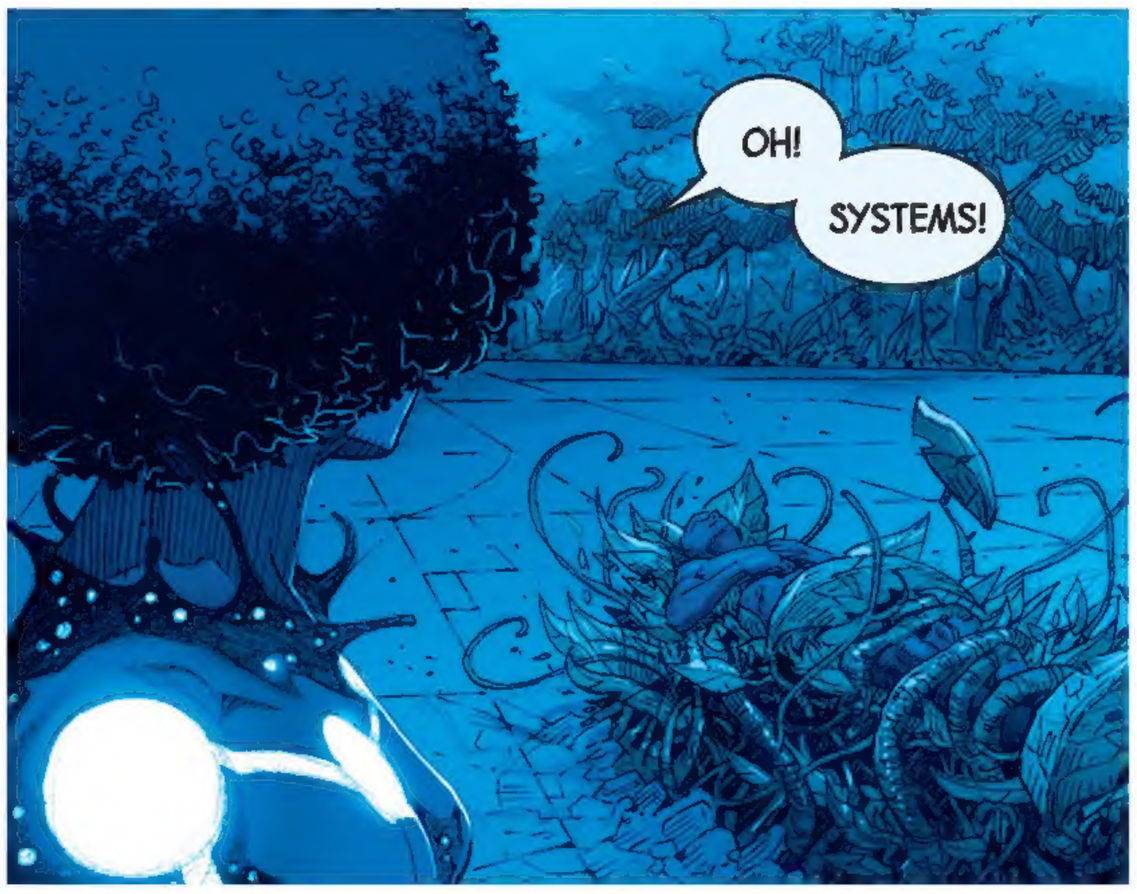
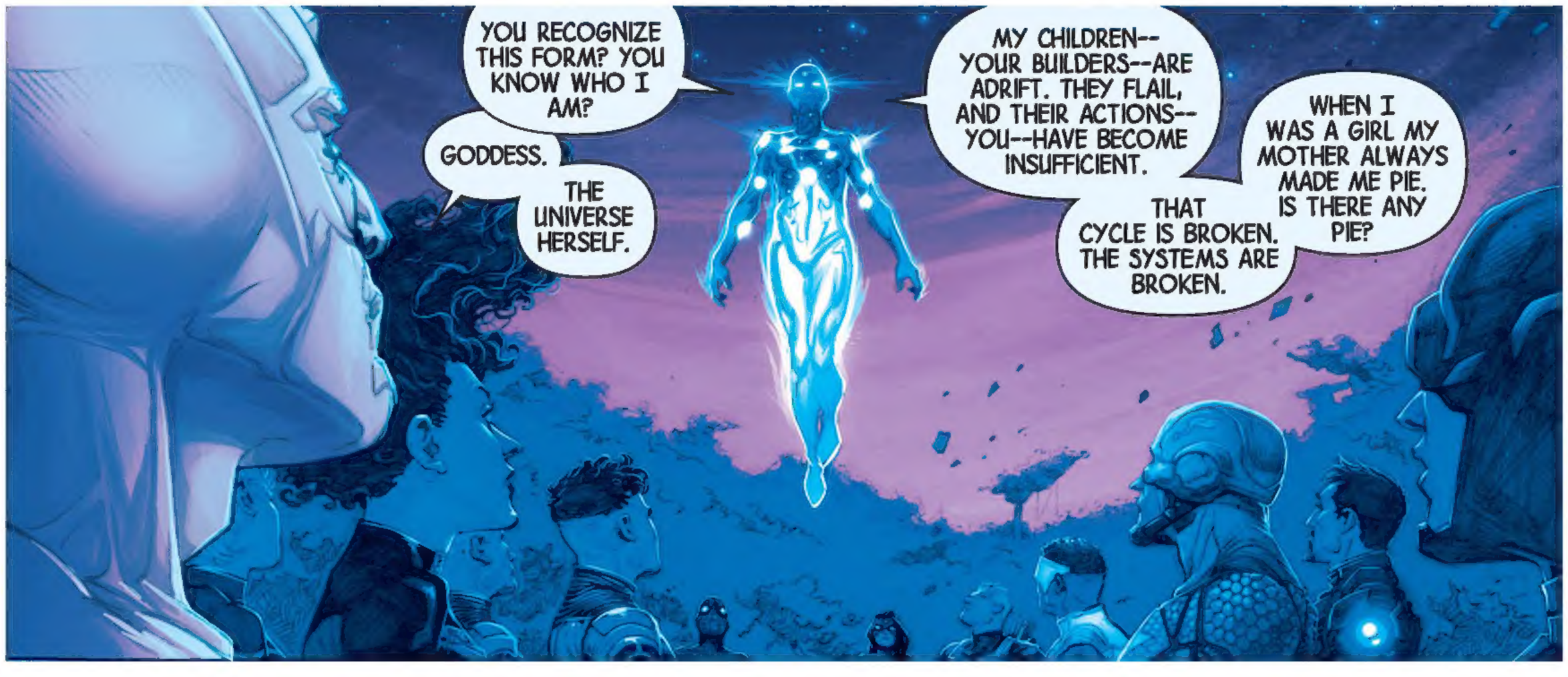
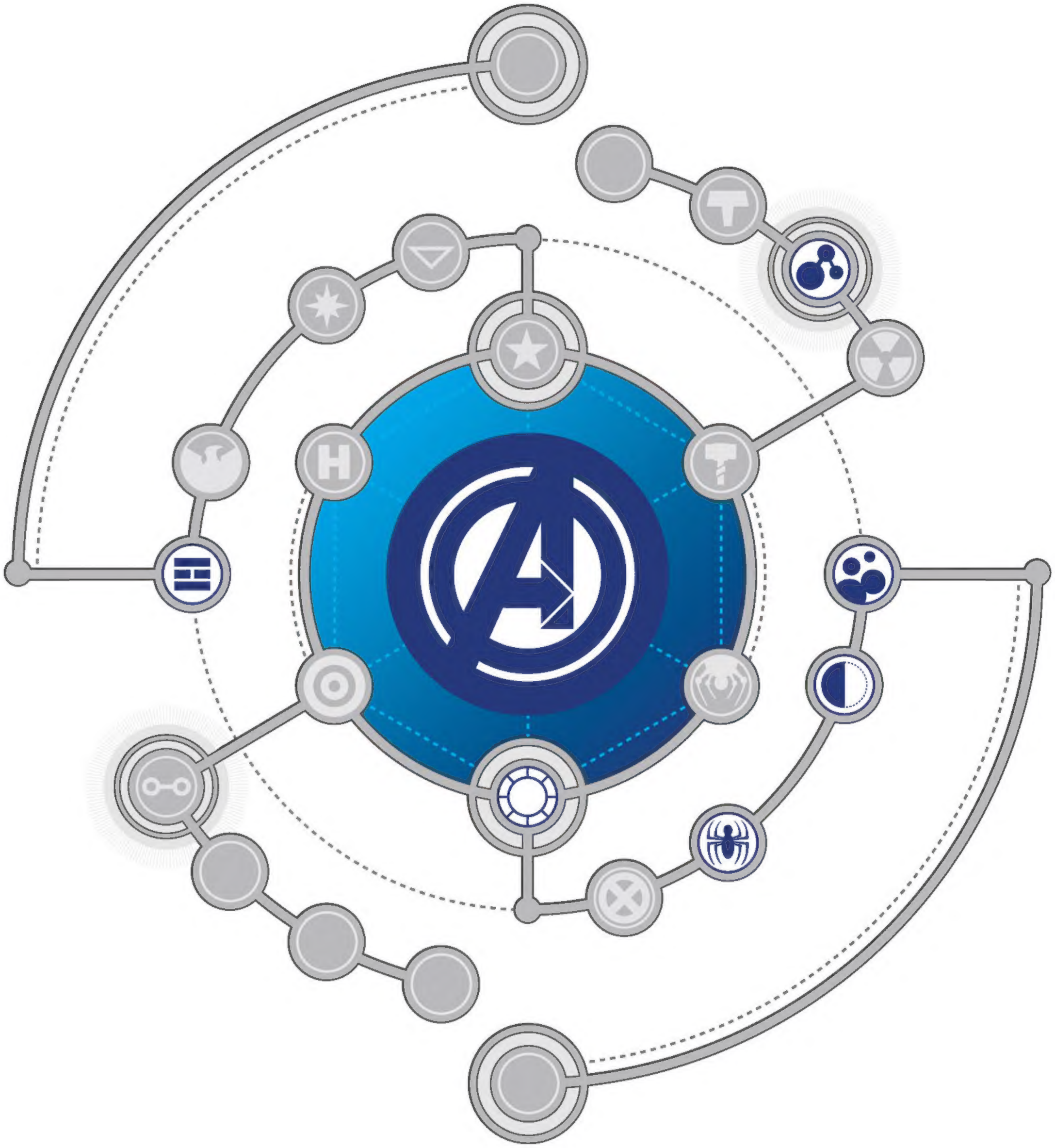
PREVIOUSLY IN AVENGERS

THIS IDEA HAS BEEN RUNNING THROUGH MY MIND AND I CAN'T SHUT IT OFF. THINGS KEEP ESCALATING, THE WORLD IS EVER MORE DANGEROUS. THAT'S A COMPLEX PROBLEM, BUT YOU HAD A PRETTY SIMPLE ANSWER...
WE NEED TO GET BIGGER, TONY.




YOU RECOGNIZE THIS FORM? YOU KNOW WHO I AM?
GODDESS.
THE UNIVERSE HERSELF.
MY CHILDREN-- YOUR BUILDERS--ARE ADRIFT. THEY FLAIL, AND THEIR ACTIONS-- YOU--HAVE BECOME INSUFFICIENT.
THAT CYCLE IS BROKEN. THE SYSTEMS ARE BROKEN.
WHEN I WAS A GIRL MY MOTHER ALWAYS MADE ME PIE. IS THERE ANY PIE?



EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES

CAPTAIN AMERICA • **IRON MAN** • THOR • HAWKEYE • BLACK WIDOW • HULK
WOLVERINE • **SPIDER-MAN** • CAPTAIN MARVEL • SPIDER-WOMAN
FALCON • **SHANG-CHI** • **SUNSPOT** • **CANNONBALL** • MANIFOLD
SMASHER • **CAPTAIN UNIVERSE** • HYPERION

"ZEN AND THE ART OF COSMOLOGY"

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THERE WAS NOTHING.

FOLLOWED BY EVERYTHING.

SWIRLING, BURNING SPECKS OF CREATION THAT CIRCLED LIFE-GIVING SUNS.

AND THEN...

WE *RACED* TO THE *LIGHT*.

THAT IS YOUR STORY...AND THEREFORE *MY* STORY.

AS ALL THE STORIES ARE THE SAME, IN THAT ALL THE STORIES ARE MINE.

UNDERSTAND?

IN THE MANNER IN WHICH SUCH THINGS CAN BE UNDERSTOOD... I THINK I DO.

WE ALL HAVE IN US SOME BITS OF CELESTIAL UNIFORMITY.

WE ARE COMPOSED OF THE AFTERBIRTH OF THE UNIVERSE.

OF YOU-- WHO BORE US ALL.

I AM MOTHER.

YES. HOWEVER...

THE OTHERS-- SPECIFICALLY ANTHONY AND STEVEN--ASKED ME TO SPEND SOME TIME WITH YOU REGARDING SOME... DELICATE ISSUES.

SO, AS APPRECIATIVE-- AND GRATEFUL--AS I AM, PERSONAL ILLUMINATION IS NOT THE PATH I WISH TO TRAVEL TODAY.

ARE THEY NOT ALL THE SAME PATH?

I NEED TO SPEAK TO *HER.*

THE HOST IS BROKEN.

EVERYTHING IS BROKEN.

YOU BEING HERE IS SIGNIFICANT. SO YOU HAVE BEEN SCANNED, PRODDED, PROBED AND QUESTIONED...AND YET, STILL NO ONE UNDERSTANDS WHY YOU ARE HERE.

AND THEN I THOUGHT OUR PROBLEM MIGHT BE THAT WE ARE TALKING TO THE WRONG PERSON.

I NEED TO SEE HER, MOTHER. EVEN IF SHE IS WEAK. EVEN IF SHE IS BROKEN.

AND IF SHE DOESN'T WANT TO MANIFEST?

TELL HER, I BROUGHT *PIE.*

TELL HER, BE HERE NOW.

OH!

WHERE... WHERE AM I?

I BLACKED OUT AGAIN... LOST TIME. WHO...WHO ARE YOU?

IS THAT FOR ME?

YES... THE PIE IS FOR YOU.

AND I AM SHANG-CHI. REMAIN CALM--BREATHE--THIS IS A SAFE PLACE. TODAY I AM GOING TO HELP YOU FIND OUT WHO YOU ARE.

WELL, I DON'T REMEMBER NOTHING. NOTHING AT ALL.

I...I CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER MY NAME.

THIS SMELLS WONDERFUL.

WE KNOW YOUR NAME. IT'S TAMARA DEVOUX.

HERE. YOU'RE GOING TO WANT THIS.

HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?

TAMARA. DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT.

YOU SURE?

YES. WE'RE SURE. BUT YOUR NAME NOT FEELING RIGHT IS NO SURPRISE.

SOMETIMES WHO WE HAVE BEEN OUR ENTIRE LIVES GETS WIPED OUT IN A SINGLE DAY. OR BY A SINGLE EVENT.

SO IT'S REALLY NOT IMPORTANT TO RECALL ALL THE SUBTLETIES OF WHO YOU USED TO BE-- WE SHOULD START WITH WHAT WAS LEFT.

CAN YOU TELL ME YOUR EARLIEST MEMORY?

I REMEMBER A LIGHT.

AND THEN A CRASH.

SHAKING... VIOLENCE...

AND THEN NOTHING.

HEY!

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU ARE DOING?

ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?

I'M SAVING THE WORLD.

COOL. THE ONGOING ADVENTURES OF THE WORLD'S FIRST ILLITERATE SUPER HERO.

CLEARLY YOU HAVEN'T BEEN AT THIS GAME LONG ENOUGH IF YOU THINK THAT...

AND, WHY WOULD YOU?

THE CONTAINER CLEARLY SAYS: *SAM.*

SAM. NOT SPIDER-MAN.

SAM.

SAM!

I TEND TO OVERLOOK THE LITTLE THINGS.

YEAH. SEE, HERE'S THE THING: I HAVE ALL OF THAT PROFESSIONALLY PREPARED.

I HIRED A SPECIALIST, WHICH LED TO HIRING A NUTRITIONIST, WHICH LED TO HIRING A MACROBIOTIC CHEF WHO COMES IN ONCE A WEEK TO COOK ALL OF SAM'S FOOD.

HE'S ON A SPECIAL DIET.

IT'S LIKE I WANNA GET RIPPED, BUT I REALLY DON'T WANT TO BULK UP.

YOU KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT?

HERE.

IT'S DISGUSTING ANYWAY.

EVERYONE THINKS YOUR NEW COSTUME SUCKS, DON'T THEY, SAM?

TRYING TOO HARD TO BE BAD WHEN HE AIN'T BAD AT ALL.

I KINDA HATE THAT GUY NOW.

YES, WELL... I SPIT IN THAT

A LIGHT AND THEN A CRASH?

YES. THAT'S WHAT I SAW.

THAT'S YOUR EARLIEST MEMORY... AND YOU CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING ELSE SURROUNDING IT?

NO. NOTHING.

THAT'S OKAY...THAT'S FINE.

IF IT'S ACCEPTABLE TO YOU, I'D LIKE TO TRY SOME ASSOCIATIVE RECALL-- THE TWO OF US NOT FOCUSING ON WHAT YOU SAW, BUT ON THE OTHER THINGS THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN HAPPENING AT THE SAME TIME.

THIS, IN TURN, SHOULD HOPEFULLY UNLOCK OTHER THINGS IN YOUR MEMORY.

WOULD THAT BE OKAY?

I THINK SO.

THEN PLEASE CLOSE YOUR EYES, BOTH HERE AND IN YOUR MIND. IMAGINE YOU ARE FLOATING IN WATER.

EVERYWHERE AT ONCE. AND NOWHERE AS WELL.

SAFE. SERENE. PERFECTLY CALM.

NOW, OPEN YOUR EYES IN YOUR MIND--YOU SEE THE EARLIEST MEMORY YOU HAVE-- LOCK THAT IMAGE IN, AND STEP OUTSIDE OF IT.

FOCUS ON THE LIGHT, AND THEN--

NO. LIGHTS.

THERE WERE TWO LIGHTS.

GOOD. OKAY, WITH THAT FIXED IN YOUR MIND, I WANT YOU TO STOP ***SEEING*** AND FOCUS ON YOUR OTHER SENSES. THINK BACK AND SEE IF YOU REMEMBER FEELING ANYTHING OR HEARING ANY SOUNDS...

CAN YOU DO THAT?

YES. MY HANDS WERE HOLDING SOMETHING TIGHT. SQUEEZIN' SOMETHING.

I HEAR...

I HEAR...TIRES SQUEALING.

WERE YOU IN A CAR, TAMARA?

YES. OH, GOD...

AVA K

OH, GOD, WE'RE GONNA CRASH!

NO. EVERYTHING IS FINE. YOU ARE OUTSIDE OF THIS MOMENT.

YOU CONTROL WHETHER WE STAY IN THIS MOMENT OR IF WE MOVE FORWARD INTO ANOTHER ONE.

STAY HERE. IN ***THIS*** MOMENT.

CAN WE DO THAT, TAMARA?

I...I'LL TRY.

GOOD. NOW, CONCENTRATE. IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU CAN MAKE OUT?

I THINK I CAN HEAR SOMETHING... SOMETHING ELSE.

I THINK I HEAR CRYING.

LISTEN TO WHAT YOU HEAR CLOSELY...IS THERE SOMEONE ELSE THERE WITH YOU?

IS THERE SOMEONE ELSE IN THE CAR?

IT'S COMING FROM BEHIND ME, AND I'M LOOKING FORWARD AT THE LIGHTS.

I CAN'T SEE IT.

OF COURSE YOU CAN.

JUST TURN YOUR HEAD.

CAN YOU SEE, TAMARA?

WAS THERE SOMEONE ELSE IN THE CAR?

OH!

YES.

A LITTLE GIRL.

MY LITTLE GIRL.

YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THOSE CHILDREN, STARK.

WHAT CHILDREN?

THE ANNOYING, ILL-MANNERED ONES.

I NEED MORE.

BOMB BOY AND SOLAR FLARE.

I THINK YOU MEAN CANNONBALL AND SUNSPOT...

WHAT DID THEY DO...THIS TIME?

WE WERE IN THE KITCHEN AND THEY DECIDED TO--RATHER RUDELY--CONFRONT ME ABOUT EATING THE LEFTOVERS IN THE REFRIGERATOR.

WAS IT YOUR FOOD?

NO.

WAS IT THEIRS?

POSSIBLY. IT WAS AN HONEST MISTAKE.

MY POINT--I THINK *THE POINT*--IS THAT I WON'T BE SPOKEN TO THAT WAY BY INFANTS.

THEN DON'T EAT THEIR FOOD.

AND GIBBERISH GIBBERISH TO YOU AS WELL, SPACEMAN.

CAN HE UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SAYING?

I AM MAKING SOLID PROGRESS ON MY TRANSLATION PACKAGE...

BUT, NO, I DON'T THINK SO.

YOU'RE A SUPER FREAK.

CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT THE GIRL?

DO YOU KNOW HER NAME?

YES. HER NAME IS ELLA...

AND SHE'S SIX YEARS OLD. HER FATHER DIDN'T WANT HER OR ME, SO WE MADE IT ON OUR OWN, JUST MY LITTLE GIRL AND ME.

SHE LOVES MILKSHAKES AND THE COLOR BLUE...

I... *REMEMBER.*

CAN I SEE HER NOW?

TAMARA, I NEED TO TELL YOU SOMETHING AND I WANT YOU TO TRY AND REMAIN CALM.

LISTEN... AND TRY TO UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SAYING.

I ALREADY KNOW. I WAS HURT IN THE CRASH I THINK, AND... AND...

I MISSED HER BIRTHDAY, DIDN'T I? SEVEN IS HER FAVORITE NUMBER AND I PROMISED... I...

I WANT TO SEE HER.

YES, YOU WERE HURT AND IN THE HOSPITAL WHEN YOU GAINED...WHEN YOU BECAME...THE UNIVERSE.

AND AS OF RIGHT NOW, WE DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR DAUGHTER.

IT SEEMS THE RECORDS DON'T...

TAMARA...

HOW LONG?

HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN?

"TEN YEARS."

YOU WERE IN A COMA FOR TEN YEARS.

NO. NO. NO NO NO NO...

TAMARA! DON'T!

AAAA

THERE WAS NOTHING.

FOLLOWED BY EVERYTHING.

SWIRLING, BURNING SPECKS OF CREATION THAT CIRCLED LIFE-GIVING SUNS.

AND THEN WE *RACED* TO THE *LIGHT.*

THE HOST IS BROKEN.

EVERYTHING IS BROKEN.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

THIS PLACE, EARTH, IS SIGNIFICANT... AND THE AXIS AROUND WHICH THE MULTIVERSE SPINS.

"*HERE*, THE LIFE AND DEATH OF EVERYTHING WILL BE DECIDED...SO IT IS HERE I NEEDED TO BECOME SENTIENT."

WHY TAMARA? WHY HER?

BECAUSE SHE IS BROKEN.

BECAUSE SHE IS DYING...

JUST AS I AM.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND...

AS IS, THE PROGRAM SHOULD BE ABLE TO DECODE THIS.

ANTHONY!

I HAVE SOMETHING WE NEED TO--

JUST A SECOND...

I'M RIGHT ON THE VERGE OF FIGURING OUT--

HEY!

YOU CAN UNDERSTAND HIM. DO IT AGAIN.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

REPEAT WHAT YOU JUST SAID. SAY IT AGAIN.

RIGHT. THAT'S IT.

YOU UNDERSTAND HIM...

YOU KNOW HIS NAME.

BLACKVEIL.

RIGHT. BLACKVEIL.

YES, ANTHONY STARK...I KNOW HIS NAME. BUT CLEARLY YOU, AND YOUR MACHINES, DO NOT.

HIS NAME IS NOT BLACKVEIL.

IT'S NIGHTMASK.

HEAR HIS WORDS WITH YOUR OWN EARS.

THE SYSTEM IS BROKEN.

IT'S COMING!

IT'S *HERE*...

THE WHITE EVENT.

THE WHITE EVENT.

THE WHITE EVENT.

BUILDER MACHINE CODE

THE ASSEMBLY!

YOUR ONE-STOP NEWS SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS AVENGERS!

The Marvel Now! train just keeps on a-chuggin' this month, with the debut of the all-new **SECRET AVENGERS #1**! It's a brand-new team with a brand-new mission as creators Nick Spencer and Luke Ross guide Nick Fury and Phil Coulson in assembling a crew of operatives for global missions so secret, even the heroes themselves can't know about them! If you loved the Black Widow sequence in the AVENGERS film (and, let's face it, who didn't?) then this is the book for you!

Two other Now! titles debuting this month that might be of interest to Avengers aficionados: Valkyrie and Misty Knight form the nucleus of a female-focused super-team in **FEARLESS DEFENDERS #1** by Cullen Bunn and Will Sliney! And the gone-but-not-forgotten Brian Michael Bendis teams with Steve McNiven to reveal the origin of Star-Lord in **GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #0.1**! And both series come with the certified Avengers seal of approval!

You know what comic not enough of you are reading? **AVENGERS ASSEMBLE**! Want to know why you should? Here's a taste:

Dear Ms. DeConnick and Mr. Caselli,

I have just finished AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #9 and wanted to write to you immediately, partly because although I've never written to a comic before I wanted to contact you and show my appreciation, and partly to offer my hand in marriage to one or both of you, whatever you prefer.

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #9 is the most perfect comic I've read since NEXTWAVE. I've been a huge fan of the Avengers for a while now, and Tony Stark in particular and his appearance in this was an absolute joy to read. Everyone was note-perfect, actually, and it's so rare, I think, to read a comic that's just so much fun and works the team dynamic so well. It's fantastic that Marvel isn't afraid to embrace the lighter side of super-heroics. I read it straight through three times, and then showed it to everyone else I met for the rest of the afternoon.

Thanks for such a great comic, and I can't wait to read issue #10!

Olivia,
London, UK

And to close us out for the month, let's do another installment of Avengers Cosplay! This is Avengers fan Jason Childers rocking an outstanding classic Hawkeye outfit!

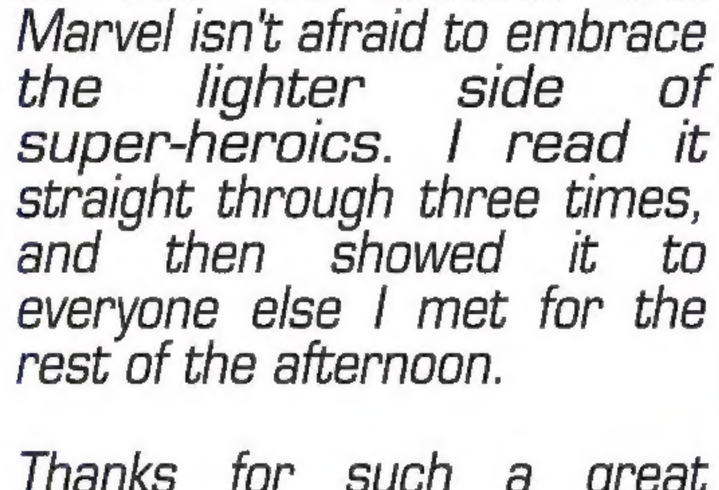

Photo by Judy Stephens for Marvel.com

There's no denying it, Jason—purple is definitely your color!

NEXT ISSUE:

AVENGERS TITLES ON SALE

AVENGERS #5
THE ORIGIN OF SMASHER!
AVENGERS #6
REVEALED! THE SECRET OF CAPTAIN UNIVERSE!
AVENGERS ARENA #4
THE RUNAWAYS VS AVENGERS ACADEMY!
AVENGERS ARENA #5
MAYHEM AMONGST THE BRADDOCK ACADEMY!
AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #12
THE BLACK WIDOW'S LEDGER!
DARK AVENGERS #187
ESCAPE FROM KING THING'S TORTURE PIT!
NEW AVENGERS #3
THE RETURN OF THE ILLUMINATI!
SECRET AVENGERS #1
WE'D TELL YOU, BUT YOUR SECURITY CLEARANCE ISN'T HIGH ENOUGH!
UNCANNY AVENGERS #5
OLIVIER COIPEL! AND THREE NEW MEMBERS!
YOUNG AVENGERS #2
PARENTAL STRIFE! PLUS THE UNCANNY AVENGERS!
A + X #5
IRON MAN AND THE BEAST! IRON FIST AND DOOP!

ALSO ON SALE!

MARVEL UNIVERSE AVENGERS: EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES #11

ZONE